(d) if so, the details thereof and the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Sixth India-Russia Inter Governmental Commission on Military Technical Cooperation took place on 24.1.2007 in New Delhi.

(b) During the meeting both sides reviewed progress of the on-going bilateral defence cooperation and discussed various issues of mutual interest in the areas of defence and security. The following Agreement/ Protocols were signed on conclusion of the meeting:—

(i) Inter Government Agreement on license production of RD-33 aero engines in India.

(ii) Protocol of Intent for co-development and co-production of Multi Role Transport Aircraft.

(iii) Protocol on the Sixth meeting of India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Military Technical Cooperation.

(c) and (d) During the recent visit of the President of the Russian Federation to India, the Governments of India and the Russian Federation signed two agreements with regard to access to the Russian Global Navigation Satellite System (GLONASS) data.

Setting up of Aerospace Command

919. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the decision regarding setting up of aerospace command has been pending with Government for a long time;

(b) if so, what are the impediments coming in the way towards setting up of aerospace command; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that many panels had recommended Government on the importance of setting up of aerospace command, to counter any threat to the country's space based assets?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) There is no decision of the Government to set up Aerospace Command.